ZIONS CHURCH

ZIONS NEWZFLASH

NOVEMBER 2026

THANKFUL FOR WHAT REALLY MATTERS

As the Thanksgiving holiday quickly approaches, I am reminded of the importance of being thankful for what really matters in this life. Having an 'attitude of gratitude' is very important in our Christian walk, and it was important to the Apostle Paul. In his letter to the church at Philippi, Paul said: "I thank my God every time I remember you, always praying with joy for all of you. I thank God for the help you gave me while I preached the Good News—help you gave from the first day you believed until now." (Philippians 1:3-5 NCV)

To put it simply, Paul was thankful for the things of God that really matter: the love and support of God's family, salvation, forgiveness, miraculous life-change, and the promise of eternal life in Heaven. And Paul's life was a sincere, faith-filled expression of his thankfulness towards Jesus Christ.

Paul continued in his greetings to the Philippians: "I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return." (Philippians 1:9-10 NLT)

Like Paul, I am absolutely thankful to God for the many, rich and undeserved blessings in life that He has showered me with. One of those great blessings of God for me is you: the faithful members of Zion's Church! I thank you for your kind support, encouragement and love, especially during this season of our church's history.

So this Thanksgiving season, let's all take prayerful time to consider what really matters and thank God for these incredibly important things He's given us. God is so good! We can also use this Thanksgiving time to ask God this: "What things in my life really don't matter? Lord, help me replace the things that don't matter with what really matters to You." Please consider this challenge.

Here are some things in my ministry life that really matter and that I'm thankful for:

Café After-School Program (CASP): God is continuing to bring more and more kids to our after-school program. Like I said last month, this is increasingly because friends are inviting their friends to come. Thank you Lord!

Rock Us: The aforementioned increases in new kids attending the CASP are translating into more new kids coming to Rock Us and hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ. So praise be to God for that! Please pray for our new students and that they come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Journey Church (JC): Since I've been preaching at the main church, I've had to leave some important responsibilities in the hands of others there. For instance, I'm not able to be with the JC band on Sunday. But the band has done a really great job in my absence and I want to thank them for really stepping up! Also, I had been running the service there. But now a relatively new Zion's Church member, Zac Baker, has really stepped up and taken on that role. Many thanks to Zac for a great job. I also thank Zac's wife, Sequoyah Baker, who's been helping Katie Bailey with the food prep and clean-up at the JC. Thank you God for these excellent servants!

Men's ministries: I'm so blessed to be part of our Knights of the 21st-Century men's group (Tuesdays @ 6:30pm- fellowship hall) and the Three Strands Saturday morning men's group at the Journey Café (6:00am). Each week at both of these groups, males are increasingly being challenged to become men of God. Currently, the Knights are studying the Warrior series, and the Saturday morning group is reading Disciplines of a Godly Man. If you are a man that really wants to know what really matters and how to apply that to your daily life, I really encourage you to please join us. Your wife and family, our church, and this world really need you to step up and be a man of God that He designed you to be! Trust me, you won't be disappointed in participating in either of these groups.

Celebrate Recovery (CR): This impacting group has been at the Journey for three months now and God is using it in mighty ways to help people with their hurts, habits and hang-ups. Recently, we've heard several powerful testimonies about miraculous life-change that God has accomplished in the lives of CR attendees. These testimonies have sparked amazing conversations in the CR small groups and have helped to build faith and hope among our attendees. Thank you God for Celebrate Recovery! Please consider coming down Thursday nights at 7pm if you'd like the help of God Almighty and the love and support of a godly group of friends.

Many thanks & may God richly bless you all!
Sincerely, Dan Bailey, youth minister

What's happening AT ZIONS?

NOVEMBER 2026

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Ladies Trivia Night
Friday, November 13th at 6:30pm
The Journey Cafe, Hamburg
Bring a snack to share and a friend!

Ladies Get Active
Saturday, November 21st at 8:30am
Schuylkill River Trail, Leesport
Park near the SV Library

MEN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School
Sunday mornings at 9:40 am
Room 108
For men ages 18+

DRIVEN Men's Group
Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
For Men ages 18+

YOUNG ADULTS

Friendsgiving
Young adults are invited to The Walk's annual Friendsgiving, an evening at the Journey Cafe, sharing food and friendship!
Sunday, November 22nd – meal at 6pm.
Bring a friend and a dish to share! If you plan to attend, please let Greta or Nate know, so we can have an estimate for place settings!

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us December 13th for our All-Church Christmas Party! This will begin promptly at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall and is open to all attendees of Zion's Church.
We plan on having the meal be set up as a potluck experience. We will be providing the main food of the event which will include Roast Turkey and Juicy Ham, and encourage you to sign up for what you'd like to bring. To keep it easier for everyone, please only plan to make enough food to cover 10 people, so that everyone can bring something, and everyone can keep their own costs low!
The signup sheet will be available outside the library and in the Welcome Center for you to bring your own dish as well as for you to let us know how many of you are coming.
The event will include fun Christmas themed music, games, sing-alongs, and plenty of fellowship! We would also like to do a story time where we dim the lights and talk about the story of Jesus a little.
For any questions, please reach out to Dan Smith.
We can't wait to celebrate with all of you!

MOMS OF THE VINE

November 11
10 am
Fellowship Hall
"Jesus is the Light" craft

December 9
10 am
Fellowship Hall
PJ Party & Ornament Craft

FREE WALKER



This walker is in the entrance hallway and free to a good home. Just take. No need to contact anyone.

ZION'S BELLS BELL CHOIR

Our 2026-2027 Handbell Ringing Season has begun... AND, WE ARE BLESSED WITH A DEDICATED, AMAZING TEAM OF RINGERS!!!
Handbell ringing requires TEAMWORK like nothing else I can think of!!! The handbell ringers WORK TOGETHER in harmony as ONE to complete their goal:
BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TO GLORIFY OUR LORD AND SAVIOR!!!
Zion's Bells began rehearsing on October 6th .
We hope you will be able to join us when we play on November 1st and November 22nd at 8:15 a.m.
Thank You, Linda Hartman

CEMETERY: FALL CLEANING

Zion Cemetery Co. Inc. of Perry Township has set the week of **November 1 – 7, 2026** for Fall Cleaning. All decorations not planted in the ground will be removed if not claimed before this week by lot owners. The Cemetery Board is not responsible for decorations remaining on graves when Fall Cleaning begins. New and existing decorations may be placed November 8, 2026.
Single or multiple grave lots are available for sale. Please contact David Geschwindt, Cemetery Manager, 610-562-7421.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Thanksgiving and Cooking Fire Safety

- **Watch the stove**: Stay in the kitchen when frying, grilling, or broiling food, and check simmering food often.
- **Clear the area:** Keep oven mitts, wooden utensils, and food wrappers at least three feet away from the stove.
- **Avoid turkey fryers**: Set up outdoor deep fryers away from wooden decks and structures to prevent severe burns and fires.

November Driving and Travel

- **Inspect your vehicle**: Check tire pressure, tread depth, and windshield wiper blades before taking long holiday trips.
- **Pack an emergency kit**: Keep blankets, flashlights, water, snacks, and jumper cables in your trunk.
- **Watch for reduced visibility**: Slow down during the high-risk evening commute window and watch out for slick wet leaves on the road.

Home Maintenance and Health

- **Test carbon monoxide detectors**: Check batteries in all alarms before turning on your heating system for the winter.
- **Prevent slips and falls**: Keep outdoor entry paths well-lit and clear of clutter for visiting guests.
- **Practice flu hygiene**: Wash hands frequently and stay up to date on seasonal vaccinations.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Zion's would like to recognize some passings in our church family in October:

- Erma Gruber
- Florence Leiby
- Francesca Moyer



We praise God for 2 child dedications in October:

- Ezra George Sander
- Weston Jeffery Simpson

Children & Families

NOVEMBER 2026

B.L.A.S.T. KIDS

Being Light & Salt Together
Sundays at 9:40 am

Preschool Class
What we're learning:

- God watches over us wherever we go

Elementary Classes
What we're learning:

- God has a plan
- Memory verse: "For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

LIFE-SIZED CANDY LAND

December 5th
1:00 - 4:00 pm

Travel with your family through the Peppermint Forest, Gumdrop Mountains, Peanut Acres, Lollipop Lane, & Snowflake Lake to get to the King in the Candy Castle.

A sweet way to celebrate Christmas!

RSVP: zionschurch.org/hub

BIRTHDAY GIFT

Every year the children have a special collection to give a birthday gift to Jesus. This year the children voted to purchase chickens for impoverished families through Samaritan's Purse as their gift. Thank you for your support to help the children achieve their giving goal.

Happy birthday to Jesus!

PLANET SHAKERS

K-5th graders learning to shake up the planet for Jesus
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

What we're learning:

- Finding Jesus under the sea - each week we study a new sea creature and learn how it points us to Jesus
- Memory verse: "Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all of creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:39

November 18th: Thanksgiving celebration

November 25th: NO Planet Shakers

MORE INFO

JENNIFER SCOTT

Email: jennifer.scott@zionschurch.org
Phone: 610-562-2300, option 6

www.zionschurch.org